

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 HONG K 05630 040816Z  
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11  
HA-05 IO-13 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /085 W  
-----015853 041214Z /72

R 040801Z MAY 78  
FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 206  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
CINCPAC  
USLO PEKING  
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 5630

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PEPR, PINT, CH, VM, PINR  
SUBJECT: YEH CHIEN-YING IN CANTON -- MAY BE OVERSEEING REFUGEE  
PROBLEM

REF: A) HONG KONG 5574; B) HONG KONG 5441 (NOTAL)

1. PRC MEDIA HAVE REPORTED, WITHOUT EXPLANATION, THAT VICE CHAIRMAN YEH CHIEN-YING PARTICIPATED IN MAY DAY CELEBRATIONS IN KWANGTUNG PROVINCE. IN VIEW OF YEH'S LONG HISTORY OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR OVERSEAS CHINESE AFFAIRS AND SINO-VIETNAMESE RELATIONS, WE SPECULATE THAT HE MAYBE IN KWANGTUNG TO OVERSEE THE HANDLING OF THE CURRENT EXODUS INTO THAT PROVINCE OF LARGE NUMBERS OF OVERSEAS CHINESE FROM VIETNAM (REF A), OR AT LEAST TO SYMBOLIZE PEKING'S CONCERN OVER THIS PROBLEM. YEH LIVED IN HANOI DURING HIS YOUTH (1912-1917), HAS HEADED MANY MILITARY AND DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS TO HANOI, AND COMMANDED THE "VIETNAMESE ASSISTANCE HEADQUARTERS" DURING THE LATE 1960'S.

2. OF COURSE YEH, WHO IS 80 YEARS OLD AND IN FRAIL HEALTH, MAY ONLY BE IN HIS NATIVE PROVINCE TO REST. HE

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REPORTEDLY SPENT THE PAST WINTER THERE TO AVOID THE BITTER COLD OF PEKING, BUT THAT REASON WOULD NO LONGER APPLY IN MAY. IT IS VERY UNUSUAL FOR ONE OF PEKING'S TOP LEADERS TO MISS THE MAY DAY CLEEBRATIONS IN PEKING, AND WE SUSPECT THAT IF YEH HAD NOT HAD IMPORTANT BUSINESS IN KWANGTUNG HE WOULD HAVE JOINED HIS FELLOW POLITBUR MEMBERS IN THE CAPITAL.

SHOESMITH

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION, REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, POLITICAL LEADERS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 04 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978HONGK05630  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780190-0641  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** ONLY  
**Reference:** 78 HONG KONG 5574, 78 HONG KONG 5441  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2795883  
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**Subject:** YEH CHIEN-YING IN CANTON -- MAY BE OVERSEEING REFUGEE PROBLEM  
**TAGS:** PEPR, PINT, PINR, CH, VM, (YEH CHIEN-YENG)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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